

ORDER NO. 581

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Ruth Y. Goldway, Chairman;  
Tony L. Hammond, Vice Chairman;  
Mark Acton;  
Dan G. Blair; and  
Nanci E. Langley

Mail Classification Schedule  
Minor Modifications for International Products

Docket No. MC2011-4

NOTICE AND ORDER CONCERNING CLASSIFICATION CHANGES

(Issued November 8, 2010)

On November 3, 2010, the Postal Service filed a notice with the Commission pursuant to 39 CFR 3020.90 *et seq.* concerning two classification changes that affect various international market dominant and competitive products.<sup>1</sup> First, the Postal Service proposes a classification change for outbound Single-Piece First-Class Mail International that would move Israel from Country Price Group 8 to Country Price Group 5.

The Postal Service previously proposed this classification change in Docket No. R2010-4 indicating that this change “aligns Israel with other industrialized countries

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<sup>1</sup> Notice of the United States Postal Service of Minor Classification Changes, November 3, 2010 (Notice).

that are paid the maximum settlement costs for delivering U.S. origin mail under the UPU Terminal Dues Target System.”<sup>2</sup>

The Postal Service asserts that the change will have a “minor” impact on prices for Single-Piece First-Class Mail International to Israel since the major portion of this volume consists of letters and postcards weighing one ounce or less, and the price for these items would remain the same after the proposed change. Notice at 1. The change becomes effective January 2, 2010.

The second change amends the Mail Classification Schedule (MCS) by adding a separate country listing for Montenegro to reflect its independence from Serbia. This change was previously incorporated in the International Mail Manual (IMM). This change conforms the MCS to the IMM. *Id.* at 1-2. Its omission from the MCS was inadvertent. The Postal Service notes that Montenegro’s price groupings will remain the same as when Montenegro was grouped with Serbia with the exception of International Priority Airmail, International Surface Air Lift, and Express Mail International, the latter not being available to Montenegro. *Id.* at 2.

The Postal Service’s Notice includes proposed conforming MCS language. It also states that its filing complies with 39 U.S.C. 3642 and urges the Commission to incorporate the changes into the MCS. *Id.*

Pursuant to 39 CFR 3020.92, the Commission provides notice of the Postal Service’s filing and affords interested persons an opportunity to express views and offer comments on whether the proposed classification change is inconsistent with 39 U.S.C. 3642. Comments are due November 15, 2010.

Section 3020.91 requires the Postal Service to file notice of the proposed change with the Commission no less than 15 days prior to the effective date of the proposed

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<sup>2</sup> Docket No. R2010-4, Statement of James M. Keifer on Behalf of the United States Postal Service, July 6, 2010, at 23. In Order No. 547, the Commission rejected the exigent rate request and did not address the merits of the proposed classification change. The Commission determined that the Postal Service could refile the classification changes as separate proposals in another docket; *see also* Docket No. R2010-4, Order Denying Request for Exigent Rate Adjustments, September 30, 2010, at 30 (Order No. 547).

change. The Notice states that the classification changes regarding Israel's price group for outbound Single-Piece First Class Mail International is to become effective on January 2, 2011.<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 1.

The Commission appoints Paul L. Harrington to serve as Public Representative in this docket.

*It is Ordered:*

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. MC2011-4 for consideration of the matters raised in this docket.
2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Paul L. Harrington is appointed to serve as officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in these proceedings.
3. Comments by interested persons in this proceeding are due no later than November 15, 2010.

By the Commission.

Shoshana M. Grove  
Secretary

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<sup>3</sup> The effective date of the proposed amendment to the MCS adding a separate country listing for Montenegro corresponds with the date that the Commission issues an Order accepting the change.